



**COUNTY COUNCIL  
16 SEPTEMBER 2011**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLOR N D COOPER (CHAIRMAN)**

Councillors W J Aron, P Bedford, Mrs P Bosworth, Mrs P A Bradwell, D Brailsford, M Brookes, P A Carpenter, E R Chapman, K J Clarke, G K Dark, C J Davie, M Exton, Mrs C M H Farquharson, C Farrar, I G Fleetwood, G M Gooding, J R Hicks, M J Hill OBE, R Hills, J D Hough, D C Hoyes MBE, R L Hubbard, N I Jackson, Miss A M Jenkyns, H R Johnson, B W Keimach, S F Kinch, C E H Marfleet, J R Marriott, G A Marsh, Mrs P A Mathers, K Milner, Major R Newell, P J O'Connor, Mrs M J Overton, C R Oxby, R J Palmer, R B Parker, R J Phillips, E J Poll, A Puttick, Mrs S Rawlins, P A Robinson, R Sellars, R A Shore, P A Skinner, K J Smith, M Smith, C L Strange, A N Stokes, E W Strengiel, J M Swanson, Mrs C A Talbot, T M Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE, C J Underwood-Frost, W S Webb, A P Williams, S F Williams, Mrs S Woolley and R Wootten.

Mr J A Hanna (Standards Committee Added Member) was also in attendance.

Prayers were led by the Reverend Colin Bowden.

**23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E N Bauer, C J T H Brewis, Reverend S P Cliff, R G Davies, D R Dickinson, M W Gilbert, Mrs B Harvey OBE, Mrs J Johnson, P S Przyszlak, R B Singleton-McGuire, M Tinker, Mrs P F Watson, C N Worth and B Young.

**24. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS**

Councillor P Bedford declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee, Boston Borough Council's Planning Committee and the South East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

Councillor D Brailsford declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee.

Councillor M Brookes declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee and Boston Borough Council's Planning Committee. He was also a member of the South East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

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Councillor N D Cooper declared a personal interest in minute number 35(i) as he was a member of the Lincolnshire Police Authority and minute number 35(ii) as he was the Chairman of the Planning Committee at East Lindsey District Council. He was also a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee.

Councillor G K Dark declared a personal interest in minute number 35(i) as he was a member of the Lincolnshire Police Authority and minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the South East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

Councillor I G Fleetwood declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was the Chairman of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee and a member of the Development Management Committee at West Lindsey District Council.

Councillor R Hills declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee and the City of Lincoln Council's Planning Committee.

Councillor D C Hoyes MBE declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee.

Councillor H R Johnson declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee, South Holland District Council's Planning Committee and the South East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee. He was also a Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Commercial Assets and Strategic Planning at South Holland District Council.

Councillor B W Keimach declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was the Vice-Chairman of the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

Councillor S F Kinch declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee.

Councillor C E H Marfleet declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of East Lindsey District Council's Planning Committee.

Councillor G A Marsh declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute number 35(ii) as he owned some land that was subject to development and intended to leave the meeting during consideration of the item.

Councillor K Milner declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee.

Councillor Mrs M J Overton declared a personal interest in minute number 33 as she knew individuals from carers organisations referred to within the report and minute number 35(ii) as she was a member of North Kesteven District Council's Planning Committee.

Councillor C R Oxby declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of North Kesteven District Council's Planning Committee.

Councillor R J Palmer declared a personal interest in minute number 35(i) as he was a member of the Lincolnshire Police Authority and minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of East Lindsey District Council's Planning Committee.

Councillor E J Poll declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee and the South East Lincolnshire Strategic Planning Committee.

Councillor R Sellars declared a personal interest in minute number 35(i) as he was a member of the Lincolnshire Police Authority and minute number 35(ii) as he was eligible to act as a substitute on West Lindsey District Council's Development Management Committee.

Councillor A N Stokes declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of South Kesteven District Council's Development Control Committee.

Councillor E W Strenziel declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the City of Lincoln Council's Planning Committee and the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

Councillor J M Swanson declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee and East Lindsey District Council's Planning Committee.

Councillor Mrs C A Talbot declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as she was a reserve member of the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

Councillor T M Trollope-Bellew declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee.

Councillor C J Underwood-Frost declared a personal interest in minute number 35(i) as he was a member of the Lincolnshire Police Authority and minute number 35(ii) as he was the Chairman of West Lindsey District Council's Development Management Committee. He was also a member of the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

Councillor W S Webb declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute number 35(ii) due to a possible future conflict of interest locally and intended to leave the meeting during consideration of the item.

Councillor S F Williams declared a personal interest in minute number 35(ii) as he was a member of the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee.

Councillor R Wootten declared a personal interest in minute number 35(i) as he was the Chairman of the Grantham East Neighbourhood Policing Panel and a member of the National Association of Retired Police Officers.

25. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20 May 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the topic of question (E) on page 3 under minute number 12 being amended to read: -

'The Council's Policy in relation to the Stamford Endowed School Scheme.'

26. SUBMISSION AND DEBATE OF PETITION

A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

The report informed the Council that a petition had been received, which exceeded the total number of signatures required to hold a debate at a meeting of the County Council.

In accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme, Debbie Gutsell spoke in explanation of the contents of the petition concerning the proposed closure of Queen's Park School in Lincoln and then presented the petition.

The Chairman reminded the Council that the final decision on the proposed closure of Queen's Park School in Lincoln would be made by the Executive. Councillors were subsequently invited to debate the issues raised as part of the petition.

It was moved and seconded: -

"That the petition be received."

An amendment was moved and seconded as follows: -

"That the Council recommends to the Executive that Queens Park School, a very special school in Lincoln, remains open and that all options be considered and actions undertaken to ensure the sustainable future of this establishment."

The amendment, upon being put to the vote, was lost.

RESOLVED

That the petition be received.

NOTE – all members of the Council's Executive abstained from voting during consideration of this item.

27. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that his civic engagements since the last Council meeting had been varied and gave him the opportunity to continue visiting places within Lincolnshire, as well as some further afield.

He thanked his wife, Pauline, for supporting him on these engagements and also Councillor Robert and Mrs Maureen Palmer, Vice-Chairman and Lady, for representing them at civic functions when, due to other commitments, they had been unable to attend.

The Chairman was delighted to see that Lincolnshire had been named Britain's Favourite Food Spot this week. Voting took place through the summer with the public casting their votes between the various English counties and in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Over 22,000 people cast their vote and the Chairman stated that it was fantastic to be recognised nationally as the number one county for food.

On a sadder note, the Chairman reported the death of Councillor Barry Singleton, Deputy Leader of the County Council, who passed away after a long illness. Councillor Singleton represented the Sleaford West and Leasingham Division since his election to the Council in June 2001. The Chairman also reported that the Council suffered a further loss with the death of Mrs Sue Edmunds, a valued member of staff who worked for the County Council for 17 years. Mrs Edmunds died tragically in a car accident.

Councillors stood in silent memory of Councillor Barry Singleton and Mrs Sue Edmunds and then paid tribute to their memory.

28. ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS BY THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Statements by the Leader and Members of the Executive had been circulated.

In addition, the following announcements were made by the Leader: -

- i) the membership of the Executive would continue to comprise of the Leader and eight Executive Councillors;
- ii) Councillor E J Poll had been appointed as a Deputy Leader of the Council;
- iii) Councillor C E H Marfleet had been appointed as the Leader's Executive Support Councillor;
- iv) there had been a slight reallocation of responsibilities to some Executive Councillors' portfolios.

A document had been circulated to reflect the Leader's announcements, as set out in Appendix A to these minutes.

29. QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN, LEADER, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS, CHAIRMAN OF ANY COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE AND THE NOMINEE OF THE POLICY AUTHORITY

Questions pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 10.3 were asked and answered as follows: -

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<u>Questions By</u>	<u>Answered By</u>	<u>Subject</u>
(A) K J Clarke	W S Webb	Compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act in respect of a proposed railway crossing – Lincoln High Street
(B) D Brailsford	E J Poll	Stamford Museum – consultation
(C) Mrs M J Overton	B Young	Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill
(D) C J Davie	Mrs S Woolley	Response by visit to Lincolnshire by the Chairman of the Commission of Rural Communities
(E) R B Parker	Mrs P A Bradwell	Support services to those schools that remain in the maintained sector
(F) R A Shore	G A Marsh	Present position with personal budgets
(G) P Bedford	E J Poll	Changes in the National Planning Policy Framework to protect Lincolnshire's environment
(H) J R Marriott	I G Fleetwood	Training of Councillors on the Planning and Regulation Committee
(I) P A Skinner	E J Poll	Boston market place investment
(J) Major R T Newell	Mrs P A Bradwell	Number of unqualified young people in Boston
(K) N I Jackson	W S Webb	Efficiency of vehicles running on dual fuel in terms of fuel usage and pollution levels
(L) R Hills	Mrs P A Bradwell	Hartsholme Primary School – moving from special measures to outstanding in two years
(M) J D Hough	G A Marsh	Closure of third sector outlets throughout Lincolnshire as a result of reductions in County Council funding

30. BUDGET UPDATE

A report by the Executive Director Resources and Community Safety had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That the proposed carry forwards of over and under spendings, set out in the relevant section of the report, and the transfers to and from reserves, summarised in table A of the report, be agreed.
- (2) That the Prudential Indicators for 2010/2011 be noted.
- (3) That the proposed in year budget changes for 2011/2012, set out in the relevant section of the report, be agreed.

**31. ANNUAL REPORT 2010/2011**

A report by the Executive Director Performance and Governance had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

**RESOLVED**

That the Annual Report for 2010/2011 be approved, subject to the removal of reference to Burghley House on page 4, the inclusion of Councillor B G Singleton's name on page 6 and some of the photographs being replaced within the document.

**32. COUNCIL BUSINESS PLAN 2011 – 2012**

A report by the Executive Director Performance and Governance had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

**RESOLVED**

That the draft Council Business Plan for 2011 – 2012 be approved.

**33. MEMBERS' BIG SOCIETY FUND**

NOTE – Councillor E W Strengeiel declared a personal interest in this item as he was a trustee of Age UK Lincoln and a Director of Linconnect.

A report by the Executive Director Performance and Governance had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the launch of the Members' Big Society Fund and carers proposal, as described in the report and amended appendices, be approved.

**34. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the following Committees, having been printed, be received:

- |     |                         |                              |
|-----|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| (a) | Planning and Regulation | 6 June 2011<br>25 July 2011  |
| (b) | Audit                   | 13 June 2011<br>11 July 2011 |
| (c) | Pensions                | 14 July 2011                 |

NOTE – the meeting adjourned for lunch at this stage of proceedings.

The following Councillors were present when the meeting reconvened after lunch: -

Councillors N D Cooper (Chairman), D Brailsford, E R Chapman, C J Davie, Mrs C M H Farquharson, G M Gooding, M J Hill OBE, R Hills, J D Hough, N I Jackson, Miss A M Jenkyns, H R Johnson, C E H Marfleet, J R Marriott, K Milner, Major R Newell, Mrs M J Overton, C R Oxby, R J Palmer, R B Parker, R J Phillips, E J Poll, A Puttick, Mrs S Rawlins, P A Robinson, R Sellars, K J Smith, C L Strange, A N Stokes, E W Strengiel, J M Swanson, T M Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE, C J Underwood-Frost, S F Williams, Mrs S Woolley and R Wootten.

**35. MOTIONS FOR DEBATE**

**(i) Motion by Councillor R B Parker**

It was moved and seconded that: -

“This Council agrees to write to the Home Secretary to ask that proposals currently before Parliament to introduce elected Police and Crime Commissioners into the United Kingdom be withdrawn.”

An amendment was moved and seconded as follows: -

“That the words ‘ask that’ be replaced with ‘express concerns about’ and the words ‘be withdrawn’ be deleted so that the motion reads: -

This Council agrees to write to the Home Secretary to express concerns about proposals currently before Parliament to introduce elected Police and Crime Commissioners into the United Kingdom.”



The amendment, upon being put to the vote, was lost.

The motion, upon being put to the vote, was lost.

(ii) Motion by Councillor Mrs M J Overton

It was moved and seconded that: -

“This Council seeks to ensure that the perceived shift towards a presumption in favour of approval of planning applications is not implemented yet, especially as most District Councils within Lincolnshire have not completed the process of adopting their Local Development Frameworks.”

RESOLVED

That the above motion be approved.

The meeting closed at 3.25 p.m.